IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

William Ford, et al.

Serial No.

10/008,179

For

LINKER MOLECULES FOR SELECTIVE

METALLISATION OF NUCLEIC ACIDS AND

THEIR USES

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AMENDMENT PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §1.121 AND PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is responsive to the Non-final Office Action mailed on December 16, 2004.

Applicants hereby petition for a three-month extension of time extending the time for response

to, and including, June 16, 2005. A check in the amount of \$1020.00 is enclosed as payment of

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00000157 10008179 06/20/2005 CCHRU1 the extension of time fee. Any fee occasioned by this paper, and not accounted for herein, may be charged, or overpayment credited, to Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 7 of this paper.